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A supporting system for creating a pre-story-board that stimulates imagination in an initial stage of movie creation

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This thesis describes a system that supports to create a storyboard. The storyboard is a document that mainly consists of sketches utilized at a movie production to share final images and to direct staffs. In particular, in this thesis, I deal with a rough storyboard. The rough storyboard is a kind of the storyboard that works as a communication medium to instantly convey unmatured images. Thus, the rough storyboard includes very important roles in the movie creation process. However, it is not easy for, in particular, novices to create the rough storyboard because they are not good at drawing sketches and they are even not good at coming up with suitable images to a scenario. Therefore, a supporting system for creating the rough sketches is required.

To support making the rough storyboard, I particularly focused an initial stage of the storyboard creation where a creator thinks of various visual scenes. In this stage, the creator sometimes utilize image retrieval systems like Google Image

Retrieval to stimulate his/her imagination. However, it is often found that the creators, particularly novice creators, merely accept an extracted image as it is. Therefore, such image retrieval systems are not suitable to stimulate the creators imagination.

Hence, I created a “pre-storyboard system” that immediately shows various images related to a scene in a scenario at once without the user’s inputting query keywords: this system morphologically analyses the scenario of the scene, automatically extracts keywords and retrieves images. I conducted experiments with subjects and examined how they use my system and the ordinary image retrieval system to create a rough storyboard. As a result, the subjects creatively utilized the images extracted by my system, for example combining several images like a collage, while they immediately used the extracted images as they are when using the ordinary image retrieval system.